

THE CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A package-forming material for forming a package which encloses and seals an article therein, comprising:

a packaging material in the form of a laminate comprising a first paper layer and a water impermeable plastic film that has at least one surface treated to increase its dynes and render it receptive to adhesives, wherein the film is laminated to the first paper sheet by a water-based adhesive that contacts the treated surface of the film and has its water absorbed by the paper sheet to effect lamination thereof, and wherein the film and paper layer have the same dimensions, and the laminate has a surface that is receptive to receiving adhesive or cohesive materials; and

a cohesive material applied to one entire surface of the laminate;

wherein the packaging material is placed about an article to be packaged such that a first portion of the surface of the packaging material that includes cohesive material contacts another portion of the surface that includes cohesive material to adhere such portions to each other and form a sealed package which encloses the article.

2. The package-forming material of claim 1, wherein the adhered cohesive portions form an adhered band which completely surrounds the article to be packaged.

3. The package-forming material of claim 1, wherein the plastic film of the laminate includes a second surface treated to increase its dynes and make it receptive to adhesives and that surface is laminated to a second paper layer.

4. The package-forming material of claim 1, wherein the plastic film is laminated to the paper layer with an adhesive that includes a water-based acrylic copolymer composition or a vinyl acetate ethylene copolymer, and wherein the paper layer is coated paper, Kraft paper, bond paper or white paper having a thickness of about 3 to 6 mils and the plastic film comprises polypropylene, polyethylene or polyester and has a thickness of about 1 to 3 mils.

5. The package-forming material of claim 4, wherein the paper layer of the laminate includes a printed surface, the printed surface is adhered to the plastic film, the plastic film forms an outer portion of the laminate, and the cohesive material is applied to the paper layer.

6. The package-forming material of claim 5, wherein the paper layer includes first and second surfaces, the first surface is a printed surface, the second surface is adhered to the plastic film the printed surface of the paper layer forms an outer portion of the laminate, and the cohesive material is applied to the plastic film.

7. The package-forming material of claim 6, wherein the paper layer includes first and second surfaces, the first surface is a metallized surface, the second surface is adhered to the plastic film and the metallized surface of the paper layer forms a decorative outer portion of the laminate.

8. A package comprising the package-forming material of claim 1, wherein the cohesive material is present upon first and second surface portions of the packaging material and the package is formed by placing the first surface of the packaging material above the article to be packaged and by placing the second surface portion of the packaging material below the article to be packaged, such that the first and second surface portions of the packaging material that include the cohesive material contact and adhere to each other to form a sealed package which encloses the article.

9. The package of claim 8, wherein the first and second surface portions of the packaging material are provided on one side of a single sheet of the laminate and then the sheet is folded around the article to be packaged to place the cohesive material containing portions in face-to-face orientation so that they can adhere together to form the package.

10. The package of claim 9, wherein the first and second surface portions are provided as first and second laminate sheets which are placed above and below the article to be packaged with the cohesive material containing surface portions in face-to-face orientation so that they can adhere together to form the package.

11. The package of claim 8, wherein the adhered cohesive portions form a margin which completely surrounds the article to be packaged.

12. A process for creating a package which encloses and seals an article therein, which comprises:

providing a packaging material in the form of a laminate a laminate comprising a first paper layer and a water impermeable plastic film that has at least one surface treated to increase its dynes and render it receptive to adhesives, wherein the film is laminated to the first paper sheet by a water-based adhesive that contacts the treated surface of the film and has its water absorbed by the paper sheet to effect lamination thereof, and wherein the film and paper layer have the same dimensions, and the laminate has a surface that is receptive to receiving adhesive or cohesive materials;

applying a cohesive material to one entire laminate; and

forming a package by placing the packaging material about an article to be packaged such that a first portion of the surface of the packaging material that includes cohesive material contacts another portion of the surface that includes cohesive material to adhere such portions to each other and form a sealed package which encloses the article.

13. The process of claim 12, wherein the plastic film of the laminate includes a second surface that is adhesively laminated to a second paper layer, wherein the laminate is further prepared by treating the second surface of the plastic film to increase its dynes and render it receptive to adhesives, followed by adhesively laminating the second surface of the plastic film to the second paper layer.

14. The process of claim 12, wherein the cohesive material is applied to first and second surface portions of the packaging material and the package is formed by placing the first surface of the packaging material above the article to be packaged and by placing the second surface portion of the packaging material below the article to be packaged, such that the first and second surface portions of the packaging material that include the cohesive material contact and adhere to each other to form the sealed package which encloses the article.

15. The process of claim 14, which further comprises providing the first and second surface portions on one side of a single sheet of the laminate and then forming the package by folding the sheet around the article to be packaged to place the cohesive material containing portions in face-to-face orientation so that they can be adhered together to form the package.

16. The process of claim 14, which further comprises providing the first and second surface portions on first and second laminate sheets and placing the sheets above and below the article to be packaged with the cohesive material containing surface portions in face-to-face orientation so that they can be adhered together to form the package.

17. The process of claim 12, wherein the plastic film is adhesively cold laminated to the paper layer with an adhesive that includes a water-based acrylic copolymer composition or a vinyl acetate ethylene copolymer, wherein the paper layer is paper, Kraft paper, bond paper or white paper having a thickness of about 3 to 6 mils and the plastic film comprises polypropylene, polyethylene or polyester and has a thickness of about 1 to 3 mils.

18. The process of claim 12, wherein the paper layer of the laminate includes a printed surface, the printed surface is adhered to the plastic film, and the plastic film forms an outer portion of the package.

19. The process of claim 12, wherein the paper layer includes first and second surfaces, the first surface is a printed surface, the second surface is adhered to the plastic film and the printed surface of the paper layer forms an outer portion of the package.

20. The process of claim 19, wherein the paper layer includes first and second surfaces, the first surface is a metallized surface, the second surface is adhered to the plastic film and the metallized surface of the paper layer forms a decorative outer portion of the package.

21. The method of claim 12, wherein the adhered cohesive portions form a margin which completely surrounds the article to be packaged.